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June 11, 1993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU TO HOST THOUSANDS OF SUMMER VISITORS

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University will host upwards of 17,000 summer visitors who will be attending camps and conferences now through August.

This weekend more than 1,000 American Legion Boys Staters will converge on the Eastern campus for a week of training on state government. The public is invited to hear Gov. Jim Edgar address the 58th annual session of Boys State at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 17, in Eastern's Lantz Gymnasium. Attorney General Roland Burris will speak to the Boys State delegation at 8 p.m. Monday, June 13, in Lantz.

The following week, June 20-26, 600 high school students will participate in the 53rd annual session of the American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State, also highlighted by a visit by Gov. Edgar. He will speak at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, June 24, in Dvorak Concert Hall in the Doudna Fine Arts Center on campus.

Other Girls State speakers include Burris, Secretary of State George Ryan, Rep. Karen Hasara, Libertyville Mayor JoAnn Eckmann, Regional Superintendent of Schools Rose Mary Shepherd, Coles County Sheriff Jim Kimball and WCIA TV weather forecaster

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Judy Fraser. Eastern President David Jorns and Vice President for Student Affairs Lou Hencken will welcome the Girls Staters to campus.

Other large groups on campus during June include the Universal Cheerleaders, June 22-25 and June 28-July 1, with 600 camp participants and boys basketball camps with 500 attendees from June 20-27. Other athletic camps in June and July are tennis, girls basketball and volleyball, football and triathlon, attracting more than 500 campers.

More than 100 members of the Civil Air Patrol will be on campus June 18-26. Speech, leadership, science and flag/dance camps will also be offered, as well as Partnerships for Excellence, a camp for freshmen and senior minority high school students.

A United States Percussion camp featuring nationally-known percussionists and other music camps in July and August will bring upwards of 1,000 high school students and music directors to campus for training. The Showstoppers pom pon camp during the third week in July will attract another 450 visitors.

Eastern will again offer Elderhostel, a national program designed to bring older adults to campus for residential, educational experiences. Two one-week sessions will be offered July 11-24, with 100 participants expected.

From the end of July to mid-August, 12 high school bands will hold practices on Eastern's campus.

Swiss Air Patrol, journalism, art, cosmetology, Red Cross emergency services, and special camps for new freshmen and transfer students and others round out the summer schedule with most activities coming to a close in mid-August.